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IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION FACILITIES EXPANDED

CONSTRUCTION WORK PUSHED IN DONBASS -- Sovetskaya Belorussiya, No 181, 11 Sep 49

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR recently published decrees on the awarding of the Order of the Red Labor Banner to the "Dneprovskpromstroy" (Dneprovsk Construction of Industrial Enterprises) Trust for successful completion of the plan for reconstruction of the Nikhnedneprovsk Metallurgical Plant imeni K. Libknekht.

Construction workers on metallurgical projects must put into operation a number of major projects during the remaining months of 1948. Organizations responsible for the restoration of the Dneprodzerzhinsk plant imeni Dzerzhinskiy, the Makeyevka Plant imeni Kirov, the Dnepropetrovsk Plant imeni Petrovskiy, and the Yenakiyev Plant are lagging in fulfilling the construction program because of inefficiency on the part of the administrations and party organizations. The experience of "Zaporozhtroy" and "Dneprovskpromstroy" in introducing monthly and daily work schedules and high-speed methods has not been widely followed. Labor productivity in the "Dzerzhinskstroy" Trust (director, Ryabchenko) is only 77 - 80 percent of the plan, with resultant inefficient utilization of machinery. Inefficiency on the part of Pomenko, director of the Plant imeni Dzerzhinskiy, in extending aid to the construction workers is evidenced by the slow tempo of reconstruction of blast furnace No 8 and the rod-rolling mill.

The housing construction plan for Ukrainian metallurgical workers is not being fulfilled at the present time despite several increases in the work tempo. Party organizations and directors must increase their activity in order to guarantee construction of the 300,000 square meters of housing planned during the remaining months of 1948.

Fulfillment of the 1948 plan depends to a great extent on the enterprises which produce construction materials and machinery, particularly the Dnepropetrovsk Metallurgical Equipment Plant, the Kramatorsk Plant imeni Stalin, and the Kharkov Electric Machinery Plant.

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Zarya Vostoka, No 181, 10 Sep 48

A great deal of work has been accomplished in reconstructing Donbass metallurgical and coking plants. Three blast furnaces, 5 open-hearth furnaces, 4 rolling mills, and 16 coking batteries have already been put into operation.

Pravda Ukrainy, No 223, 19 Sep 48

The Mariupol' Plant imeni Il'ich completed the production of gas pipes for the Dashava-Kiev main line on 12 September, which was considerably ahead of schedule. This is considered one of the most important projects of the postwar Five-Year Plan. In completing this assignment, the Mariupol' Plant was assisted by the Makeyevka Metallurgical Plant imeni Kirov and the Khartsyzsk Pipe-Welding Plant.

With the completion of the pipes, it is possible for the builders of the gas main to finish the installation by 1 October 1948 and to start gas flowing to Kiev by that date.

Pravda Ukrainy, No 227, 24 Sep 48

The Kramatorsk Metallurgical Plant imeni Khybyshev fulfilled the 9-month plan ahead of schedule in all phases of the metallurgical process. By lowering the production cost of cast iron, steel, and rolled iron more than planned, the plant saved 3,538,000 rubles for the state. In comparison with 1947, cost of production per ton was reduced by the following amounts: cast iron, 48 rubles; steel, 46 rubles; rolled iron, 98 rubles.

PREWAR CAPACITY RESTORED -- Zarya Vostoka, No 190, 22 Sep 48

Another open-hearth furnace has been put into operation at the "Krasnyy Oktyabr'" Metallurgical Plant. It has just completed its first melt. The prewar capacity of the open-hearth furnace shop at the plant is now restored.

NEW FOUNDRY COMPLETED IN CHIATURA - Zarya Vostoka, No 193, 26 Sep 48

A new foundry recently put into operation in the main machine shop of the "Chiaturmarganets" Trust will fulfill all requirements for iron and nonferrous metal casting.

KAZAKH OUTPUT SHOULD INCREASE -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 186, 18 Sep 48

Ferrous metal enterprises in Kazakhstan exceeded the 8-month plan for output of steel, rolled metal, ferroalloys, and mining of manganese and chromite ores. The Kazakh Metallurgical Plant has achieved a 3,800,000-ruble saving so far this year and plans to save 5,200,000 rubles by the end of 1948 instead of 2 million rubles as planned. The experience of the leading smelters in the Kazakh Metallurgical Plant indicates that the removal of steel per square meter of open-hearth furnace sole should be considerably more than 3 tons as planned.

The Aktyubinsk Ferroalloy Plant must strive to modernize its technological process and institute new types of production.

The Dzhezdzy Mine should extend mechanical drilling, introduce hauling by electric locomotives, and decrease the interval between blasting operations and drilling.

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The Donskiy Chromite Mines should introduce a more efficient utilization of excavators and locomotives.

The Temir-Tau enterprise has pledged to produce 4,600 tons of rolled metal above plan and to increase steel smelting in the second half of 1948.

The Aktyubinsk Ferroalloy Plant has pledged to produce 1,500 tons of ferroalloy above plan, the Dzhezdzy Min. 10,000 tons of ore, and the Donskiy Mines 16,000 tons above the second 6-month plan.

NEW TYPE OF MANGANESE DISCOVERED -- Zarya Vostoka, No 193, 26 Sep 48

"Pumpla" is the local name given to a variety of manganese ore, deposits of which were discovered in Chiatura in the region of the Samikauri highlands. This ore has the possibility of extensive industrial use. The manganese content can be considerably increased by means of magnetic separation.

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